

WORKFORCE TRENDS

Newsline



Released: March 10, 2010

South Carolina's Unemployment Rate 12.6% in January

South Carolina's unemployment rate increased to 12.6 % in January, the State Employment Security Commission reported today. The annual benchmarking/revision process conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revised December's rate downward from 12.6% to 12.4%. The state's labor force was estimated at 2,175,217 in January, up 3,569 over the December level. The number of unemployed climbed 4,605 to a record 273,455. The national jobless rate decreased from 10.0 % in December to 9.7% in January.

The non-farm job count decreased by 27,700 in January. Retail Trade cut 7,700 positions in January as temporary help was released after the holiday season. This was followed by losses in Leisure and Hospitality (-4,800), Professional and Business Services (-4,100), Education and Health Services (-4,100), and Construction (-1,700). Government jobs were down 4,500 over the month. The overall job count for January was 42,800 below the year-ago level. Manufacturing showed little change for the month.

According to newly benchmarked unemployment estimates, South Carolina's unemployment rate averaged 11.7% in 2009.

Special Note:

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment data presented in this release reflect revisions to the latest benchmark established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Benchmarking is an annual process mandated by BLS in which preliminary job count estimates are revised based on more up-to-date data from employer payroll records. The December preliminary job count was revised downward by 34,700 to 1,812,655. The national benchmark resulted in a downward adjustment of just over 900,000 jobs.



S. C. Employment Security Commission Samuel R. Foster, Interim Executive Director

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WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

January-10

Industry	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Net Change From Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonag. Employment	1,785,000	1,812,700	1,827,800	-27,700	-42,800
Natural Resources and Mining	4,300	4,100	4,200	200	100
Construction	80,800	82,500	94,600	-1,700	-13,800
Manufacturing	207,500	207,500	227,800	0	-20,300
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	340,600	350,000	352,000	-9,400	-11,400
Information	27,700	27,900	27,900	-200	-200
Financial Activities	100,900	100,100	101,700	800	-800
Professional and Business Services	204,600	208,700	200,100	-4,100	4,500
Educational and Health Services	206,400	210,500	205,900	-4,100	500
Leisure and Hospitality	189,900	194,700	195,000	-4,800	-5,100
Government	354,300	358,800	349,200	-4,500	5,100

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES RANKED BY COUNTY

Unemployment Rate

Rank	County	January 2010	December 2009	Change
1	Allendale	24.3	22.3	2.0
	Marion	24.3	21.8	2.5
3	Chester	22.3	21.3	1.0
4	Union	22.1	21.0	1.1
5	Marlboro	21.3	19.9	1.4
6	Barnwell	21.2	19.1	2.1
7	Lancaster	19.0	18.0	1.0
8	Bamberg	18.6	17.4	1.2
9	McCormick	18.5	18.0	0.5
10	Chesterfield	18.3	17.1	1.2
11	Orangeburg	18.0	17.1	0.9
12	Williamsburg	17.8	16.5	1.3
13	Dillon	17.5	16.7	0.8
14	Clarendon	17.4	16.3	1.1
15	Cherokee	17.1	16.4	0.7
16	Hampton	16.9	15.7	1.2
17	Abbeville	16.7	15.7	1.0
18	Horry	16.5	14.5	2.0
19	York	16.4	15.0	1.4
20	Lee	16.3	15.5	0.8
21	Georgetown	15.3	14.1	1.2
22	Colleton	15.2	14.4	0.8
23	Oconee	14.9	13.8	1.1
24	Fairfield	14.8	12.9	1.9
25	Calhoun	14.6	13.4	1.2
26	Darlington	14.5	13.3	1.2
27	Anderson	14.3	13.5	0.8
28	Greenwood	14.2	13.6	0.6
29	Sumter	14.1	13.5	0.6
30	Spartanburg	13.8	13.0	0.8
31	Laurens	13.6	12.5	1.1
32	Florence	13.5	12.7	0.8
33	Newberry	13.0	12.0	1.0
34	Edgefield	12.3	11.5	0.8
35	Kershaw	11.8	11.4	0.4
36	Pickens	11.7	11.2	0.5
37	Berkeley	11.3	10.9	0.4
	Greenville	11.3	10.7	0.6
39	Saluda	11.0	10.5	0.5
40	Dorchester	10.9	10.3	0.6
41	Jasper	10.8	10.5	0.3
42	Aiken	10.7	10.2	0.5
43	Charleston	10.6	9.9	0.7
	Richland	10.6	10.2	0.4
45	Beaufort	9.8	9.0	0.8
46	Lexington	9.4	8.8	0.6

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY LABOR MARKET AREA

AREA:	January-10								
	LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			% OF LABOR FORCE		
	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009
ABBEVILLE	11,227	11,201	11,587	1,875	1,761	1,472	16.7	15.7	12.7
AIKEN	77,530	76,362	76,030	8,328	7,808	6,340	10.7	10.2	8.3
ALLENDALE	3,467	3,430	3,497	844	764	768	24.3	22.3	22.0
ANDERSON MSA	85,072	84,661	86,043	12,181	11,389	9,663	14.3	13.5	11.2
BAMBERG	6,518	6,490	6,592	1,214	1,130	998	18.6	17.4	15.1
BARNWELL	9,574	9,383	9,217	2,026	1,788	1,461	21.2	19.1	15.9
BEAUFORT	65,627	65,525	61,749	6,439	5,914	5,382	9.8	9.0	8.7
BERKELEY	80,401	80,053	80,200	9,099	8,753	7,651	11.3	10.9	9.5
CALHOUN	6,978	6,889	6,890	1,016	926	789	14.6	13.4	11.5
CHARLESTON	175,512	174,312	173,678	18,532	17,335	13,953	10.6	9.9	8.0
CHEROKEE	25,505	25,573	26,305	4,359	4,197	3,926	17.1	16.4	14.9
CHESTER	15,790	15,722	16,059	3,515	3,344	2,989	22.3	21.3	18.6
CHESTERFIELD	19,135	19,047	19,350	3,503	3,249	3,141	18.3	17.1	16.2
CLARENDON	12,988	12,960	12,973	2,264	2,114	1,935	17.4	16.3	14.9
COLLETON	17,537	17,535	17,092	2,673	2,523	2,193	15.2	14.4	12.8
DARLINGTON	31,528	31,229	32,235	4,581	4,148	4,111	14.5	13.3	12.8
DILLON	14,183	14,235	13,937	2,478	2,372	2,064	17.5	16.7	14.8
DORCHESTER	63,984	63,533	63,925	6,977	6,527	5,921	10.9	10.3	9.3
EDGEFIELD	11,409	11,205	11,079	1,399	1,289	999	12.3	11.5	9.0
FAIRFIELD	11,213	10,960	11,244	1,665	1,410	1,473	14.8	12.9	13.1
FLORENCE	63,951	63,658	64,412	8,660	8,091	6,707	13.5	12.7	10.4
GEORGETOWN	31,416	31,307	29,621	4,819	4,419	3,838	15.3	14.1	13.0
GREENVILLE	221,559	220,173	223,357	25,103	23,527	19,911	11.3	10.7	8.9
GREENWOOD	31,334	31,377	31,841	4,434	4,252	3,799	14.2	13.6	11.9
HAMPTON	8,042	8,031	7,960	1,362	1,264	1,179	16.9	15.7	14.8
HORRY/MYR BCH MSA	127,420	125,903	124,244	21,085	18,317	17,674	16.5	14.5	14.2
JASPER	10,387	10,420	9,832	1,123	1,090	1,010	10.8	10.5	10.3
KERSHAW	30,101	29,957	30,280	3,564	3,417	3,124	11.8	11.4	10.3
LANCASTER	30,674	30,484	30,745	5,842	5,475	5,130	19.0	18.0	16.7
LAURENS	32,757	32,352	32,941	4,464	4,032	3,641	13.6	12.5	11.1
LEE	8,470	8,485	8,536	1,377	1,314	1,162	16.3	15.5	13.6
LEXINGTON	132,846	132,096	133,192	12,441	11,675	9,976	9.4	8.8	7.5
MARION	13,501	13,241	13,398	3,280	2,888	2,886	24.3	21.8	21.5
MARLBORO	12,183	12,192	12,627	2,599	2,424	2,286	21.3	19.9	18.1
McCORMICK	3,464	3,468	3,545	641	625	602	18.5	18.0	17.0
NEWBERRY	18,229	18,231	18,797	2,377	2,192	1,903	13.0	12.0	10.1
OCONEE	31,668	31,509	31,790	4,714	4,353	4,023	14.9	13.8	12.7
ORANGEBURG	42,095	42,023	42,119	7,580	7,173	6,090	18.0	17.1	14.5
PICKENS	57,479	57,188	58,276	6,736	6,396	5,728	11.7	11.2	9.8
RICHLAND	180,988	180,152	180,875	19,267	18,410	15,380	10.6	10.2	8.5
SALUDA	9,000	8,952	8,994	987	938	794	11.0	10.5	8.8
SPARTANBURG MSA	134,565	134,626	136,399	18,601	17,482	14,927	13.8	13.0	10.9
SUMTER MSA	43,934	43,738	45,363	6,207	5,898	5,363	14.1	13.5	11.8
UNION	12,309	12,268	12,036	2,722	2,578	1,984	22.1	21.0	16.5
WILLIAMSBURG	16,192	16,149	16,039	2,877	2,661	2,378	17.8	16.5	14.8
YORK	112,331	110,922	111,549	18,476	16,680	13,834	16.4	15.0	12.4
Multi County MSAs									
CHAS MSA	319,896	317,898	317,803	34,607	32,614	27,525	10.8	10.3	8.7
COLA MSA	371,126	369,005	371,475	38,940	36,775	31,536	10.5	10.0	8.5
FLORENCE MSA	95,479	94,887	96,647	13,241	12,239	10,818	13.9	12.9	11.2
GRNV MSA	311,795	309,714	314,574	36,303	33,956	29,280	11.6	11.0	9.3
South Carolina*	2,175.2	2,171.6	2,176.9	273.5	268.8	218.7	12.6	12.4	10.0

* Seasonally Adjusted